

**IN THE CLAIMS**

Please amend the claims to read as indicated below.

1. (currently amended) An illumination system, comprising:  
a first light source and a second light source, each of which are for providing light having a wavelength  $\leq 193$  nm; and  
an optical element, having a plurality of raster elements that includes at least three raster elements,  
wherein said first light source illuminates a first area of said optical element and said second light source illuminates a second area of said optical element, and  
wherein said light that impinges on said optical element is reflected by said optical element.
2. (currently amended) The illumination system of claim 1, wherein said ~~optical element has a~~ plurality of raster elements ~~for partitioning~~ partitions light from said first light source and said second light source into a plurality of light channels.
3. (currently amended) The illumination system of claim ~~2~~ 1, wherein said first area and said second area are spatially separated from one another.
4. (currently amended) The illumination system of claim ~~2~~ 1, wherein said first area includes a first subset of said plurality of raster elements, and said second area includes a second subset of said plurality of raster elements.
5. (currently amended) The illumination system of claim ~~2~~ 1, wherein said first light source comprises a first collecting optical element.
6. (original) The illumination system of claim 5, wherein said second light source comprises a second collecting optical element.